

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 GUATEM 03145 301858Z  
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00  
INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-02 ICA-20 HA-05 MCT-01 /080 W  
-----015132 310406Z /23

R 301822Z MAY 78  
FM AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 427  
INFO AMEMBASSY MANAGUA  
AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE  
AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR  
AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA  
/USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS CZ  
DIA WASHDC

UNCLAS GUATEMALA 3145

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PINS, GT  
SUBJ: THIRTY-FOUR DEAD IN ALTA VERAPAZ CLASH

ARMY PUBLIC RELATIONS HAS ISSUED A NEWS RELEASE STATING THAT MONDAY MORNING, MAY 29, CAMPESINOS AT THE INSTIGATION OF GUERRILLAS ATTACKED A MILITARY DETACHMENT IN PANZOS, ALTA VERAPAZ. THIRTY-FOUR ATTACKERS WERE KILLED, 17 WOUNDED. SEVEN SOLDIERS WERE SAID TO HAVE BEEN SERIOUSLY WOUNDED. THE ARMY BULLETIN SAID GUERRILLAS IN VARIOUS PARTS OF THE COUNTRY (INCLUDING HUEHUETENANGO AND EL QUICHE DEPARTMENTS) HAVE BEEN ENCOURAGING CAMPESINOS TO INVADE PRIVATE FARM LANDS. PRENSA LIBRE CARRIED SOMEWHAT DIFFERENT VERSION TO EFFECT THAT CLASH WAS ORIGINALLY BETWEEN GROUPS OF CAMPESINOS FIGHTING OVER LAND. INTERLOPERS CARRIED SHOTGUNS AND MACHETES. VICTIMS REPORTEDLY INCLUDED MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN. STORY CLAIMED THAT THE MILITARY WAS SHOT AT WHEN SOLDIERS TRIED TO SEPARATE THE COMBATANTS. WHATEVER THE REAL GENESIS, THIS IS THE MOST SERIOUS SUCH  
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PAGE 02 GUATEM 03145 301858Z

INCIDENT IN OVER A YEAR. WE WILL TRY TO CLARIFY.  
ANDREWS

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** AGRICULTURAL WORKERS, UNCONVENTIONAL WARFARE, DEATHS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 30 may 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978GUATEM03145  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780226-0858  
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**Office:** ACTION ARA  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
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**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
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**Subject:** THIRTY-FOUR DEAD IN ALTA VERAPAZ CLASH ARMY PUBLIC RELATIONS HAS ISSUED A NEWS RELEASE STATING THAT MONDAY MORNING, MAY 29, CAMPESINOS AT THE INS  
**TAGS:** PINS, GT  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
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